

Historical Highlights of Augustana College • A Walking Tour



Augustana College Walking Tour

Start / Finish

1. Old Main, 3600-7th Ave
2. Bell Tower, Campus
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5. Abrahamson Hall, 3449-7th Ave
6. Bartholomew House, 741-34th St
7. Algot F. Lundholm House, 753-34th St
8. Charles & Mae Esbjorn Residence I, 3250-9th Ave
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- 11a. Esbjorn House, 3025-10th Ave
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15. Founders Hall and Seminary Hall, 820-38th St
16. Jespersen/Tweet House, 3900-8th Ave
- 16a. Anna Olsson House, 3912-8th Ave
17. Sorensen Hall, 639-38th St
- 17a. Bergendoff Hall, 3701-7th Ave
18. Ericson Field and Stadium, 520-38th St

While the academic buildings included in this tour are open for your exploration during regular operating hours, please limit your viewing of residences to vantages offered from public walkways.

Restrooms nearest to the starting point are located in Bergendoff Hall, immediately south of Ericson Field. In addition to regular business hours, the building is generally open evenings and weekends during the school year, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays during the summer.

Besides water fountains and vending machines in Bergendoff Hall, refreshments can be found in the College Center, just across 7th Avenue. Again, these operate on academic hours; nearby restaurants can be found west on 7th Avenue, or just south of campus either on 38th Street or along the intersecting 14th Avenue.

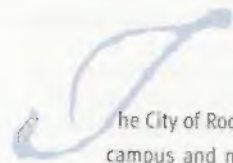
PARKING LOTS



*"The constant and friendly interactions
of college and community
accrue to the distinct advantages of both."*

TUVE N. HASSELQUIST

SECOND PRESIDENT OF AUGUSTANA COLLEGE



The City of Rock Island and Augustana College invite you to explore the rich architectural history of the campus and neighborhood buildings which share in its heritage. This one-hour walking tour, which begins and ends in the parking lot adjacent to Centennial Hall (3703 Seventh Avenue), includes some of the most historic structures in Rock Island, including two buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Founded in 1860 in Chicago, Augustana College and Theological Seminary moved three years later to Paxton, Ill., remaining there for 12 years prior to its move to Rock Island, where the first college building was dedicated on September 22, 1875. The school was the flagship educational institution of the Augustana Lutheran Synod, a national church body made up primarily of Swedish immigrants and their descendants. Following a merger which created the Lutheran Church in America in 1962, the Seminary left Rock Island to become part of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Today, Augustana is related to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and is considered to be among America's leading liberal arts colleges.

Augustana has roots both in the church and in the liberal arts and sciences. As the school's president, Dr. Thomas Tredway, observed in a recent annual report, these roots are very much alive today: "Augustana stakes its future upon the need of American society for people who think carefully, express themselves clearly and who have worked out a set of personal values for themselves, people who understand the way in which tough decisions about difficult questions, whether they touch nature, society or culture, are made. And we believe not just that our country needs such people, but that it knows it does—that families will continue to send young people to schools like ours because residential liberal arts colleges are uniquely suited to preparing responsible leaders for a democratic society."

Getting your bearings. If you're standing in the Centennial Hall parking lot, you can see a water tower to the north with the letters "QCIC" around the top. Sorensen Hall, with a large cross on its facade, is to the east, and to the south you should see a walkway leading up to two pedestrian bridges. Our tour begins here. Take the bridge which leads south over Seventh Avenue. Once across, turn right and walk along the north side of the brown-brick College Center. Just prior to the far set of doors, you'll notice a stone on your right which marks the site of the first college building in Rock Island. Continue just a little further, and our first landmark will come into view.

1. Old Main

3600–7th Avenue

Take the walkway which leads toward the east-facing door. Above it, note the stained glass window recalling the original layout of the structure, which included a chapel in its east wing. When school is in session, you can enter via the (north) main entrance, either by the portico-topped staircase or the wheelchair accessible entry just beneath it.

Large-scale Renaissance Revival buildings are rare in the Quad Cities and Old Main

is an important example of a style popular from the 1840s to the 1920s. Dedicated in 1889, the building was based on a similar structure at Sweden's University of Uppsala, the alma mater of many of the early Augustana faculty. A large central pediment (triangular shape above the roofline) that appears to be held up by four two-story tall pilasters (rectangular columns attached to the wall) dominates the beautifully balanced main entrance. Smaller pediments flank the ends of the symmetrical structure whose walls move from heavily textured stones at ground level to smooth masonry walls at the second and third floor levels. Topping

Old Main is a dome whose design derives from 16th century Italian buildings. Note the balustrade or railing around the base, the columns separating tall narrow windows and the smaller cupola also held up by columns. Old Main's monumental symmetry visually dominates the central campus area.

Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, Old Main is considered to be the most notable building erected by Swedish immigrants to the United States. Its primary construction material is buff-colored dolomite limestone from quarries



near LeClaire, Iowa, which also produced many of the building blocks for the historic factories of the Rock Island Arsenal. Cost of the building is estimated at \$75,000, one-third of which was donated by one of the community's early commercial and industrial giants, Philander Lathrop Cable, whose obituary in the Rock Island *Argus* compared his relationship to the development of Rock Island with that of John Deere's to the City of Moline. Cable Hall, on the second floor of Old Main, was restored in 1983 to provide a glimpse of what a 19th century classroom would look like.

The most striking feature of Old Main came to be included in the project as an afterthought. The dome was not a part of initial plans conceived by architects L.G. Hallberg of Chicago and E.S. Hammatt of Davenport, Iowa. Campus legend holds that while the structure is reminiscent of its Swedish roots to the roofline; beyond that, members of the building committee who considered themselves more American than Swedish demanded a dome. While Uppsala's main building boasts a crenellated octagonal tower, a dome was believed to be more reflective of such American landmarks as capitol buildings and county courthouses.

2. The Bell Tower

When you're on the south side of Old Main, you'll notice Zion Hill rising up on your left. The Augustana Bell Tower, located midway up the hill, is another landmark hearkening back to Scandinavia, where many schools and parish churches have free-standing bell towers. Augustana's version was built in 1936 using timbers from the first college building, which had been razed the previous year. The tower holds the original college bell—weighing 731 pounds—which came to Rock Island by riverboat from the foundry of Vanduzen and Taft in Cincinnati.





One of the elements which bridges these differences is the round window in the center of the pediment. The window now contains a stained glass representation of the school seal, presented by students living in Carlsson Hall during its 70th anniversary year. The seal depicts an open book, with *Scriptura Sacra* (Holy Scriptures) engraved on the left, and *Sola Fide* (by faith alone) on the right.

The building's original name suggested its purpose of housing the growing number of women students in the 1920s. Its construction was funded largely by gifts from the Women's Missionary Society of the Augustana Lutheran Synod, gifts almost lost because the location—less than three blocks removed from the primary men's residence of the day—was deemed dangerous by Emmy Evald, president of the Women's Missionary Society.

The manner in which the building's place in the history of American higher education was secured proves Evald's suspicions were not groundless. In 1949, it was the site of the first recorded "panty raid," in which male students—most of them war veterans enrolled under the GI Bill—stormed Augustana's bastion of femininity, locking the house-matron in a closet in the process. The escapade was reported by wire services across the country, and thus a fad was born which continued on college campuses for the next two decades.

3. Carlsson Hall

3601-7th Avenue

Looking north down the service driveway on the west side of Old Main provides a neatly framed perspective of a structure dedicated in 1928 as the Woman's Building, and renamed Carlsson Hall after becoming a men's residence in 1960. The symmetry of the facade and the composite pilasters which appear to hold up the dominant central pediment reflect the facade design of Old Main. But the simple round-topped central door, the same size and shaped windows across the facade and the lack of an elaborated entry portico provide a major visual contrast with the larger and more monumental building we just visited across Seventh Avenue. The design differences and the contrast in ground levels instantly identify which building is more important in terms of function.



4. Denkmann Memorial Hall

3520-7th Avenue

Before crossing Seventh Avenue for a closer look at Carlsson, our tour next stops at a structure which weaves together elements of two distinct architectural styles. Originally designed as the college's library by the Chicago architectural firm of Patton and Miller and dedicated in 1911, this stately Beaux-Arts building has Prairie School architectural detailing throughout the interior. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Denkmann funded this building in memory of their parents. Based on the elaborate architectural designs associated

with the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, American interpretations of this style were especially popular with wealthy clients from the 1880s to the 1920s. The large, two-story tall, round-topped windows are flanked in the center by recessed columns. Also very common in Beaux Arts buildings are the low relief carved swags on the cornice and the roof line balustrade combined with a carved crest.

But the three Denkmann children (including Suzanne Denkmann Häuberg, whose sprawling estate is now Rock Island's Häuberg Park and Civic Center) were also interested in Prairie School architectural designs that originated in Chicago with Frank Lloyd Wright and his associates in the early 20th century. The Prairie School influence is especially evident in the carving directly above the main entrance where the highly geometric patterns form a major contrast with the Beaux-Arts decoration at the roofline.

The angular, geometric ornamentation found in Prairie School buildings continues on the interior and is especially evident in the metal work of the stair railings, the designs in the stained glass windows in the stairwells and the stained glass dome on the second floor. The building's crown jewel—Wallenberg Hall—rewards visitors with its massive columns and two- and three-dimensional artwork, including an equine study by famed Swedish sculptor Carl Milles, presented to Augustana by the artist during a visit to Rock Island in 1932. The inscription above the door relates a passage from an ancient Norse saga, translated as "No better burden can one carry through life than much knowledge."

Denkmann's main floor is today home to the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, a major repository of both genealogical information and modern research on immigration from Sweden to the United States. The Swenson Center is



open to the public by appointment only, and can be contacted by phone at 309 794 7204, or by e-mail at sag@augustana.edu.

Denkmann Memorial Hall second floor "skylight" (above); portal (below)





5. Abrahamson Hall

3449–7th Avenue

Cross-corner from Denkmann Hall we find the home of L.G. Amrahamson, a Chicago pastor who was one of three finalists for the presidency of Augustana considered by its board of trustees in 1901. Although the vote favored Gustav Andreen, who went on to become the college's longest-serving president, Abrahamson and his family maintained ties with the school and later moved here. In 1947, Augustana purchased the family home from Abrahamson's heirs for \$15,000. Used as both a men's and women's residence hall during the post-war and Baby Boom years, today it houses studios for the college's art department.

In the early 20th century, an architectural form known as the Craftsman style was developed in California by the Greene brothers. Rapidly spreading throughout the United States via pattern books, it became the most popular style used in residential buildings from 1905 to the 1920s. Crafts-

man elements in the Abrahamson House (ca. 1912) include the stucco walls, exposed roof rafters also evident in the roof dormer windows, and the windows in groups of three or more. Craftsman homes with hipped roofs are rare and are stylistically very close to Prairie School vernacular residences. Prairie School decorative detailing appears in the angular geometric ornamentation at the tops of the squared entry porch columns, similar to the geometric detailing on the interior of Denkmann Memorial Hall.

Now it's onward and upward as we head uphill along Seventh Avenue and turn left on 34th Street, staying on the left (east) side of the street.

6. Bartholomew House

741–34th Street

American Foursquare homes (sometimes referred to as the Prairie Box) are found extensively throughout the Midwest and were very popular from 1900 to the 1920s.

The box-like, two-story home with a hipped roof often pierced by gable windows could have a wide variety of decorative detailing, especially in the exterior materials and the front porch trim. In this example, built circa 1910, a low balustrade forms a second-floor sun porch that tops the full-width porch with its classically influenced columns. The asymmetrical placement of the door contrasts with the balanced windows on the second floor.

Were we to visit the college archives in the Augustana Library, we would be hard-pressed to find a better-loved professor in the long history of Augustana than Edward Fry Bartholomew. Although this was not the first house in which Bartholomew lived when he left the presidency of Carthage College to become professor of English here in 1888, it is closely associated with him and his family. Olof Olsson, one of the three presidents under whom Bartholomew served, wrote the following of the professor's hallowed lecture hall: "Here we meet the ruler of the English language and of

philosophy. Hither our students journey to learn our new homeland's strong and rich language, and to explore the wonderful creation we call the spirit of man.

How wide a realm is the English language and literature! If we add philosophy, then Prof. Bartholomew has a greater empire than even the Russian Czar."

Throughout his 41-year tenure at Augustana, which he left at age 82 (although he continued teaching part-time for yet more of his 100 years), Bartholomew was a persistent reformer of the curriculum, often eschewing the classicism of his disciplines in favor of what he saw as best for the future of Augustana.



7. Algot F. Lundholm House 753-34th Street

This fine example of a Tudor Revival residence indicates some of the seemingly endless variations evident in this popular style that swept across America from the 1920s to 1940s. Although the term Tudor is often used to identify these buildings, they really exhibit elements of English architecture that appeared before and after the Tudor dynasty ruled England. The steeply pitched dominant front gable with the round-topped doorway and triple windows are some of the characteristic features found in Tudor Revival residences; however, the wood-shingle wall cladding is unusual.



Several of the structures associated with figures significant in the history of the college have been home to multiple generations. Although the Rev. Algot Lundholm was well into his career when he joined the Seminary faculty in 1927, his son, Brynholf Lundholm, was only a year removed from his Augustana graduation before being named Instructor in piano in 1932. As accompanist and sometime conductor, Brynholf was closely tied to the Augustana Choir, and his daughter Martha Lundholm Jansson (who grew up in the house) maintained the bonds by helping the Choir arrange its 2001 tour of Sweden from her present-day home there. The Lundholm family maintains residence in the house, and Mrs. Gertrude Lundholm—Brynholf's widow—is a much-beloved member of the campus community.

Cross 34th Street and continue south across Ninth Avenue. Here our tour encounters the developing tastes (and growing wherewithal) of an American family, with two homes adjacent geographically but miles apart in architecture.

Abrahamson Hall
(opposite);
Bartholomew
House (left); Dr.
E.F. Bartholomew
(above, left); Lundholm
House (above, right)



8. Charles and Mae Esbjorn House I

3250-9th Avenue

Not all historic buildings are identified with a transplanted European style or with a well-known architect. This one-and-a-half story home with its cross gable roof is an example of a vernacular gable-front home. Particularly suited to narrow city lots, these residences were sometimes augmented with Queen Anne or Craftsman detailing. Here we see a combination of both. A typical Craftsman porch with stone piers holding up wooden columns is combined with the side bay window that is sometimes seen in vernacular Queen Anne homes.

Esbjorn House I (left) and Esbjorn House II (below); original exterior of the Augustana Book Concern (top right); detail of Cervin-Ryden House (below right).



9. Charles and Mae Esbjorn House II

3244—9th Avenue

Charles Esbjorn graduated from Augustana in 1880 and taught Greek, Latin, English history and German before being named professor of modern languages in 1886. He and Mae resided in their first home from 1911, then moved to their second home in 1927. The Prairie style was an American invention associated with Frank Lloyd Wright and his followers. Variations of Wright's ideas were rapidly spread via pattern books during the early years of the 20th century and many residences were influenced by this style. As in the Abrahamson House, this home blends features from both the Craftsman style and the Prairie School. The large squared porch columns, the door flanked by narrow side panels and the sash windows with six lights in the top sash can be found interchangeably in both of these styles. But note the exposed rafter beams underneath the wide eaves of the porch that mirror those found in the Craftsman style Abrahamson House.

Returning to 34th Street, we'll turn right and head to the far side of the corner with Tenth Avenue.

10. Cervin-Ryden House

3400—10th Avenue

Craftsman features in this large home include the brackets underneath the wide eaves, the exposed rafters on the underside of the porch roof and the wonderful wood detailing in each gable. The wide range of options for house designs using the Craftsman and Prairie School styles has been a recurring theme throughout our tour.

Today the house is named for the Rev E.E. Ryden, former chair of the Augustana College board and longtime editor of *The Lutheran Companion*, the main periodical of the Augustana Synod, which was published in the building now known as Sorensen Hall (see p. 20 and the historical photo above). Although the Ryden family



lived in the home from the early 1950s until 1964, the house first belonged to the family of prominent local architect Olof Z. Cervin, who designed the 1914 structure. Cervin's rich legacy can be found around the city and in communities across the Midwest. In conjunction with his partner, Benj. A. Horn, Cervin helped design the post-WWI boom in housing constructed by the 1918 U.S. Housing Corporation, many examples of which can be found in Rock Island and Moline. Also of note locally is Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church (today St. John's Lutheran Church, seven blocks east of campus at 4501—7th Ave.), Rock Island High School Stadium, 2300 block of 17th St.), and Rock Island's first modern "skyscraper," the Safety Building (1800—3rd Ave.).

The original parcel extended well past the house into the steeply sloped ravine beyond. Augustana purchased that part of the lot in 1943 in a move many thought foolhardy, since the rough landscape of the ravine was unsuitable for development. Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, president of Augustana from 1935–1962, later explained



that the purchase was strategic, in that it made the campus contiguous to the Davis estate and its grand House on the Hill, our next stop.



11. House on the Hill

3052–10th Avenue

Walking west along tree-lined Tenth Avenue brings us to the second of Augustana's two entries on the National Register of Historic Places. The Weyerhaeuser home is one of the finest examples of Second Empire architecture in the Quad Cities. Imitating the latest style of French architecture during the reign of Napoleon III, it spread to the United States and was popular in the Midwest and Northeast from the 1850s to the 1880s. This magnificent 25 room home was the residence of Frederick Weyerhaeuser, a German-born lumber baron who founded the Weyerhaeuser Denkmann Lumber Company in Rock Island with his brother-in-law Frederick Denkmann (see page 10). The asymmetry of the facade aided by the tall windows and one story porches as well as the tall, narrow, elaborately framed windows are part of this ornate style. But its most characteristic feature is the sloping mansard roof pierced by windows. This feature was believed to be especially functional since it gave the attic sufficient light to be used for living space.

By the middle of the 20th century, the Weyerhaeuser business had followed the lumber industry north and west, and the home was headed by Frederick's daughter,

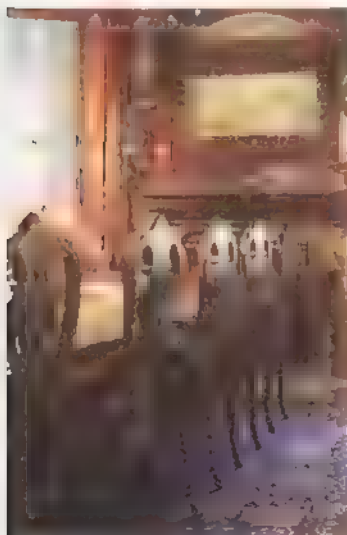


Apollonia Weyerhaeuser Davis, and their husband Sam, a prominent figure in the industrial development of Rock Island.

After Mrs. Davis's death in 1955, the home and its 26 acre estate were given to the college by the family, with the stipulation that Augustana provide life-long housing for Mr. and Mrs. John Koehler (longtime employees of the Davises who resided in the house), and that the home continue to be known by the family name. The Koehler House as it is known today was purchased in 1943 and is now owned and preserved by the Augustana Research Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that has been the subject of research by Augustana geology professor B. Hammer, who discovered the first Augustana fossil in 1991. Also of note, just Tenth Avenue to the north and a half mile west you can see the Esbjorn Student House, constructed at a time when many elements of different styles clearly defined its eclectic. The stucco walls combined with the half-timber detailing suggest elements found in regional Revival structures, yet the half-timber and the overall rectangular multiple windows suggest a traditional influence.



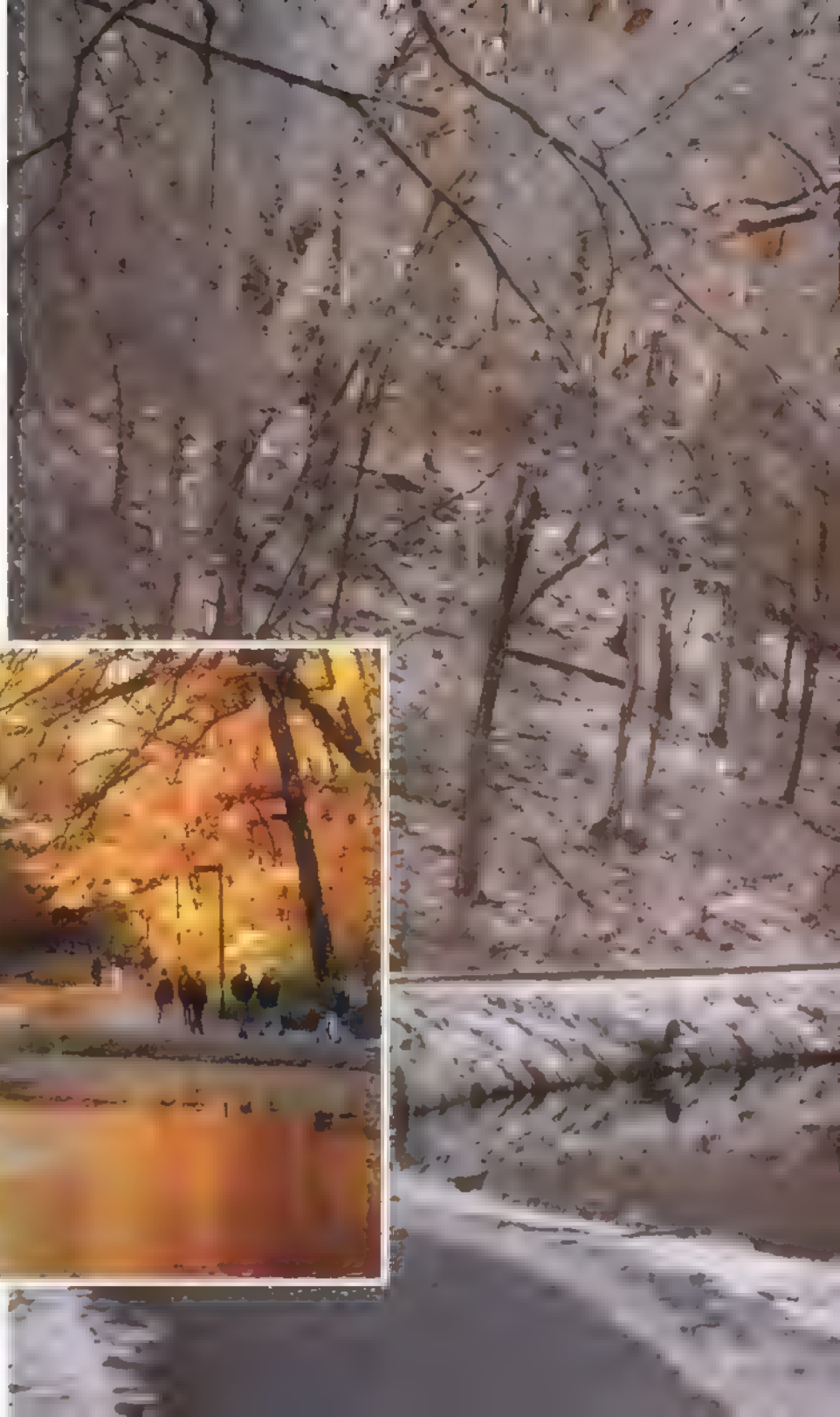
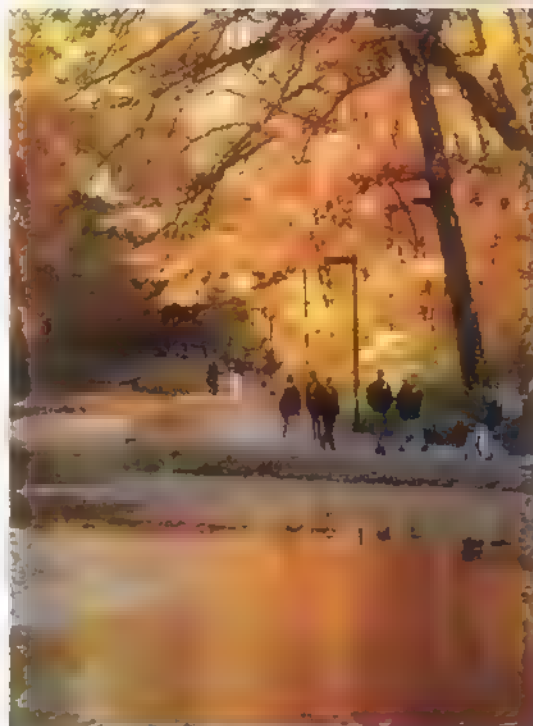
House on the Hill (opposite, left), dining room with LaFarge glass (left), the Weyerhaeuser family (top), Esbjorn Student House (above).

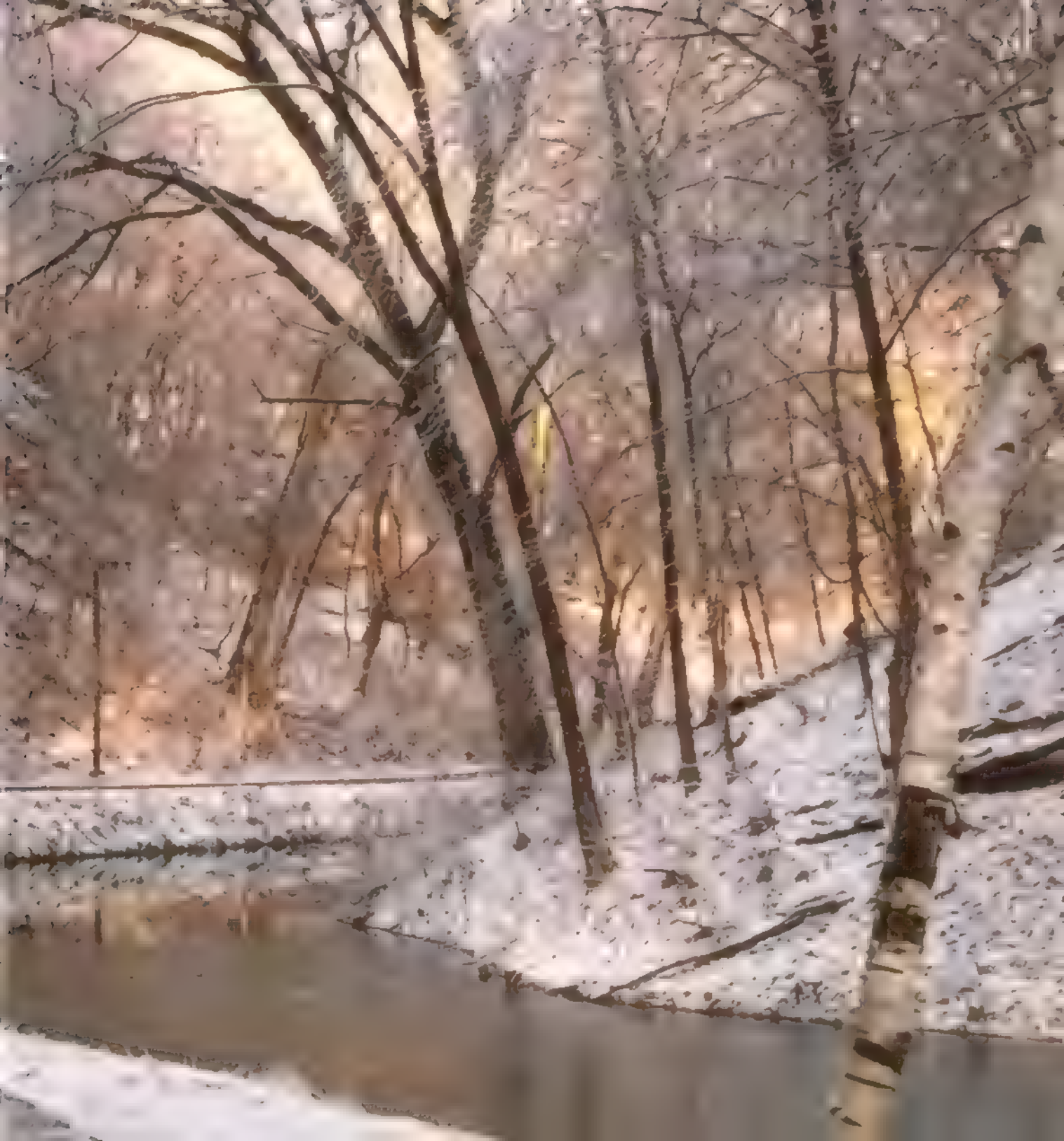


12. The Slough Path

We'll take our leave of House on the Hill by walking around the back, then heading to the southeast around the outside of the Westerin Residence Center. Making our way between Westerin and the adjacent tennis courts, we'll come to a way-way intersection whose left leading lane marks the beginning of the Slough Path, as our tour turns briefly to natural history. The ravine walkway was developed in the mid-1960s as a means to connect the older main campus with the new residence halls then being constructed on land from the Davis gift. Several creeks make their way into the ravine, and form a pond at the lower end. This waterway has taken many forms since the campus began to be developed in 1875, and only took its current form in 1991 after the completion of the Augustana Library, which we'll see at the path's end.

The careful observer will note a wealth of flora and fauna during the five-minute stroll down the path. Depending on the season, you may spot wood ducks, kingfishers, painted turtles and herons—deer and coyotes are extremely rare sightings, although not unheard of. The hillsides abound with plant life, including bloodroot, wild ginger, may apple, common thistle and wild geranium.







Above: Andreen Hall, north entrance; Andreen Hall, south entrance (at right)

13. Indian Boundary Marker

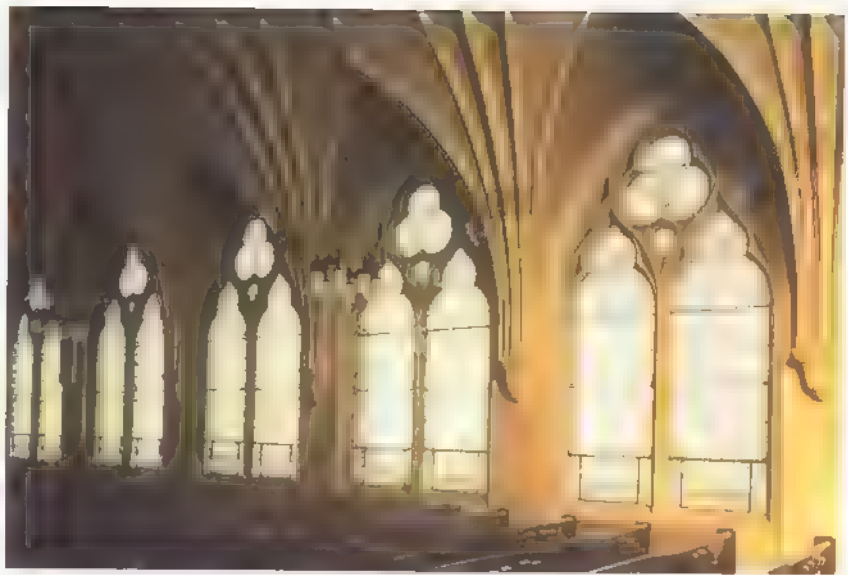
The end of the Sough Path spills us into the main, or academic, campus. After passing the Library tower on our left, the path branches. We'll take the right fork toward Zion Hill. Making our way east toward the staircase, we'll veer off to the right at its base. Following this path south brings us abreast of a historical marker located to the left of the path. This stone, and another located about 150 yards to the east, plumb the Indian Boundary line drawn from a notorious 1816 treaty soon thereafter abandoned by the U.S. (For more on this region's rich Native American history, consult the Augustana Library's Hauberg Collection.)

14. Andreen Hall

960–38th Street

Looking further south along this path we can see a stone wall which appears to disappear up into the trees. At the top of this spur on our tour we find an embodiment of the Tudor Revival in Andreen Hall, completed in 1917, with subsequent additions in 1945 and 1966. Brick was the most common material used for walls on Tudor style buildings and this was combined with masonry trim around the windows and doors. Often times, major entrances were greatly elaborated with porticoed arches. Here, the verticality is re-emphasized in the decorative lighting on either side of the door.





15. Founders Hall, Seminary Hall 820-38th Street

Returning to Zion Hill, on whose shoulder the Indian Boundary Line marker rests, we find at its top a courtyard with Augustana's distinctive John Deere Planetarium on the south side. Our interest, however, is in the Tudor and Gothic influenced architecture which combine here in the fascinating complex of buildings on the north and east sides, with Founders Hall on the left and Seminary Hall on the right, both designed

by the local architectural firm of Cervin and Horn. An open sided, medieval like cloister walk joins the two buildings with an arcade of pointed arches. In the Middle Ages,

cloister walks were often attached to the sides of churches to form a quiet area for prayer and reflection and to connect the church with other areas of the monastery.

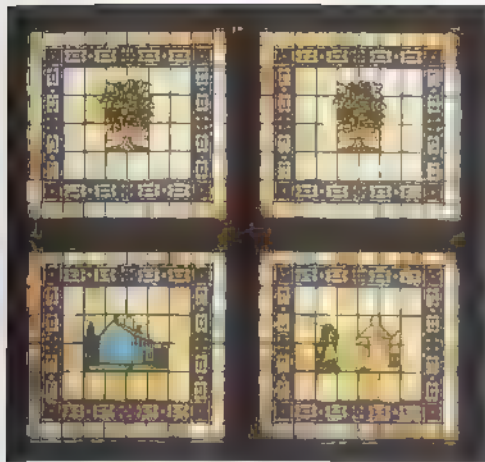
Both buildings share red brick facades with contrasting masonry trim around the doors and windows, common features of Tudor buildings. Grouped windows across the facade and open pierced stone designs at the roof line are other elements of large-scale structures using Tudor designs. An interesting narrow band of low relief sculpture is often overlooked. Seen best from the enclosed courtyard formed by the cloister walk, look at the bay jutting out from the wall above the main entrance to Founders Hall.



The narrow band of sculpture wraps around the top of the grouped, second floor windows. Evident in the band is the Chi Rho symbol for the name of Christ surrounded by intertwined grapevines symbolizing the blood of Christ partaken during Communion.

Entering Founders Hall via these doors and proceeding to the staircase ahead, we find on its landing a stained glass depiction of Augustana's sojourn to Rock Island. The upper left "Spring field" window recalls a brief period when the teachers and pastors who would later found Augustana were part of a mission education enterprise which would evolve into today's Illinois State University. One of the alumni of that school's preparatory department was Robert Todd Lincoln, son of our nation's 16th President. Turning left at the top of the stairs brings us to the college's primary worship space, Ascension Chapel. The entire complex was erected in 1923, with an expansion of Founders Hall in 1955 doubling the size of the chapel, whose name derives from the stained glass window at its west end. Below the window are carvings depicting the heraldry of the Apostles.

Retracing our steps, we'll leave Founders Hall and continue down the cloister walk to the door of Seminary Hall. Turning left, it's all downhill from here.



Ascension Chapel and west facade inset (opposite page);
stained glass in Founders Hall (above); Founders Hall (right);
Seminary Hall (below).







16. Tweet/Jesperson House

3900–8th Avenue

After descending the staircase, take the right branch of the walkway to another set of steps leading down to 38th Street. Directly opposite the foot of the stairs is 8th Avenue, which we'll follow one block to the east. Please be very careful in crossing the street! Just at the point where 39th Street drops off to the left, a glance up to the right reveals our next stop.

The Rev. Johannes Jesperson served as general manager of the Augustana Synod for 14 years beginning in 1889. His prodigious fundraising abilities often benefited the college, most notably in funding the construction of Old Main's graceful portico, and the long stone retaining wall which runs along the south side of 7th Avenue. Jesperson found money for the latter by approaching the Church's Young Peoples Societies, and the names of many of these youth groups can still be found etched along the wall. He built this home in 1892.



Tweet/Jesperson House (opposite page); The Rev. Johannes Jesperson (left); the Anna Olsson House (above)

The house is also closely associated with Professor Ernest W. Olson, who both taught at Augustana College and worked for the Augustana Book Concern. Olson's translation of Swedish hymn-writer Lina Sandell-Berg's *Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara* is better known on this side of the Atlantic as the beloved *Children of the Heavenly Father*.

In 1998, the home's 40-year owners, Professor Roald and Mrs. Margaret Tweet, took part in Rock Island's "Great Unveiling" program, removing asbestos siding from this Queen Anne home to reveal the original wood siding and the wonderful fishscale shingles near the top of the polygonal tower and front gable. Although the present enclosed porch is different than the original open porch with spindlework detailing, the tall, asymmetrical facade still mirrors a building style that was dominant from the 1880s into the early 1900s. Popularized by English architects, it has nothing to do with the reign of Queen Anne in the 18th century. Multiple variations in form and decorative details made it popular across the United States. Dr.

Tweet is professor emeritus of English at Augustana.

At this point, we've almost reached the end of our tour. Please recall that Augustana and its environs are but one small chapter in the wonderfully rich story that is Rock Island. Other self-guided architectural tours are available at the Rock Island Public Library (401–19th St.), including a survey of the KeyStone neighborhood immediately east of the campus. The KeyStone architectural tour includes three homes close to campus with strong ties to the college's history: the Anna Olsson House (3912–8th Ave.), the Conrad Lindberg House (3826–7th Ave.), and the John and Albertina Arnell House (3904–7th Ave.).

The first of those can be spotted just a few doors down from the Tweet home, and we'll pass the next two as we make our way down 39th Street to 7th Avenue. With the Arnell House on our right and the Lindberg House on our left, we'll turn toward the latter and make our way to the stoplight. Turning right, the crosswalk offers safe passage to one of our last stops just across 7th Avenue.



17. Sorensen Hall/The Augustana Book Concern

639–38th Street

Today the original c.1898 Italianate facade of the former Augustana Book Concern (see photo, p. 9) is totally masked by the remodeling that occurred between 1957–59, when this printing house was expanded to meet the needs of the growing Augustana Lutheran Church. Although the book concern and college were separate institutions, the re-modeling was an attempt to visually relate the structure to Bergendoff Hall—located across 38th Street—which had been constructed two years earlier in 1955. The book concern later merged to become part of Fortress Press, and the college purchased the building in 1967 and renamed it North Hall. In 1975, the name was changed to honor Dr. C.W. Sorensen, who retired from the college presidency in that year. Since then, Dr. Thomas Tredway has served as only the seventh president since Augustana's founding in 1860.

Bergendoff Hall's simple exterior design—on which the book concern modeled its building's alteration—is based on the

International Style that developed in Europe in the 1920s and became popular in the United States after World War II. Noted for its smooth, flat walls, flat roofline, large numbers of windows and lack of surface ornamentation, the focus of the International Style was on absolute functionalism; anything that wasn't intended for the function of a structure was to be eliminated from the design.

In re-modeling the former Augustana Book Concern to make it appear more "modern," we can observe one of the major threats to historic architecture, a danger that is especially evident from about 40 to 60 years after a building's construction. It is during these years, when the building is no longer "new" and not yet old enough to seem "historic" to most people, that changes are made to building exteriors which often destroy the original style and preclude it from ever becoming an architectural landmark. Although Bergendoff Hall may appear dated at present, it is important to remember its significance as the first International Style building on campus.

18. Ericson Field

520–38th Street

Returning to the Centennial Hall parking lot that marked the starting point of our tour, a glance to its far (north) side offers a perspective on a football field whose humble appearance belies its place in the history of collegiate athletics. Between 1983 and 1986, the Augustana Vikings won four consecutive national football championships in the NCAA's Division III; just as remarkable, during those four years the team did not lose a single game.

The field's name honors the memory of C.J.A. Ericson, a state senator from Boone, Iowa, whose considerable land holdings included property on both sides of the Mississippi River. In 1899, Sen. Ericson donated to the college a parcel that included virtually the entire area bounded by 5th and 7th Avenues and 36th and 38th Streets. In 1939 the decision was made to develop an athletic field on



the site, complete with stadium bleachers for 550 spectators and locker facilities located underneath. Ericson Field once boasted a baseball diamond in addition to a football field, but a state highway project undertaken in 1961 shaved off the northeast corner of the complex. The original cinder running track was more rectangle than oval, but the reconfiguration of the parcel allowed for the more traditional shape.

Now that the journey is complete, we hope you've found it worthwhile and we thank you for your interest! At this point, we trust there is much more you'd like to know about the City of Rock Island and Augustana College. The Rock Island Preservation Commission has published a variety of other walking tours and documents of interest. More information is available either by contacting the Rock Island Preservation Commission (1528-3rd Ave., Rock Island IL 61201) or the Augustana Historical Society (639-38th St., Rock Island IL 61201).



Sorensen Hall (opposite page); Ericson Field (left); Bergendoff Hall (above).

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